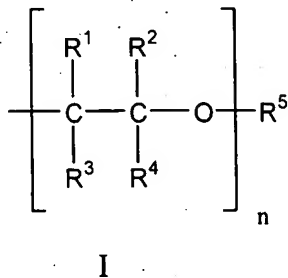


Claims

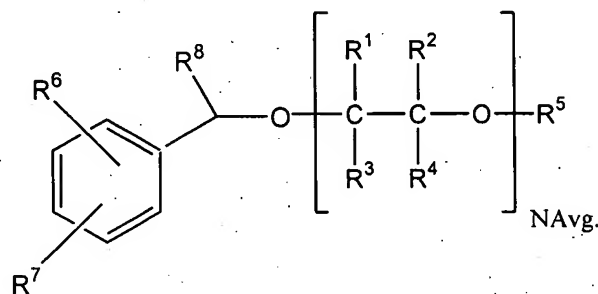
What is claimed is:

1. A coating removal composition comprising:
water;
an alkoxyated aromatic alcohol;
an amine; and
an inorganic base.
2. The coating removal composition of claim 1 wherein the inorganic base is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal silicates, alkali metal hydroxides, and mixtures thereof.
3. The coating removal composition of claim 1 wherein the amine is an alkanolamine.
4. The coating removal composition of claim 1 wherein the alkoxyated aromatic alcohol selected from the group consisting of ethoxylated unsubstituted benzyl alcohols, ethoxylated unsubstituted phenols, and mixtures thereof.
5. The coating removal composition of claim 1 wherein the alkoxyated aromatic alcohol contains at least one aromatic ring and alkoxyate units of general formula I



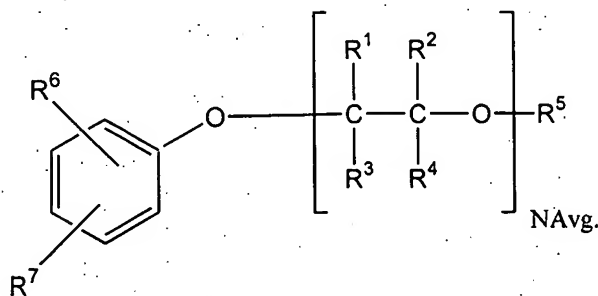
wherein: R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen and methyl; R^5 is hydrogen, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, or phenyl; and n is 2 - 10.

6. The coating removal composition of claim 1 comprising a mixture of alkoxyated aromatic alcohols of general formula II with a number average N_{avg.} of alkoxyate units from about 2.5 to about 5, and wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are as defined for formula I, and R⁶, R⁷ and R⁸ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₄ alkyl



II.

7. The coating removal composition of claim 1 comprising a mixture of alkoxyated aromatic alcohols of general formula III with a number average N_{avg.} of alkoxyate units from about 2.5 to about 5, wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are as defined for formula I, and R⁶ and R⁷ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₄ alkyl



III

8. The coating removal composition of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the inorganic base is at least 10% and is not more than 30%.

9. The coating removal composition of claim 8 wherein the alkoxyated aromatic alcohol component is present in an amount from 4-15% and the ratio of the alkoxyated aromatic alcohol component to the base component is less than 1:1.

10. The coating removal composition of claim 9 wherein the concentration of the amine component is at least 0.8 and is not more than 3.4%.

11. A coating removal concentrate composition comprising two separately packaged parts to be combined and diluted with water prior to application on a substrate, wherein

Part A comprises:

- a. an alkoxyated aromatic alcohol; and
- b. an amine; and

Part B comprises:

- a. an inorganic base, and
- b. optionally, chelating agents, corrosion inhibitors, thickeners, surfactants, and mixtures thereof.

12. The coating removal concentrate composition of claim 11 wherein Part A comprises 75-90 wt% alkoxyated aromatic alcohol component and 10 - 25 wt% amine component and Part B comprises 41 - 44 wt% inorganic base component.

13. A working coating removal composition comprising a mixture of the concentrate of claim 12 with water.

14. A working coating removal composition claim 13, wherein the ratio of A:B is 1:3 to 1:2.25.

15. A method of removing a coating from a surface of a substrate, said method comprising:

contacting the coating removal composition of claim 1 with said coating for a time and at a temperature effective to remove said coating from said surface of said substrate.

16. The method of claim 12 wherein the temperature of the coating removal composition is between 75°C to 105°C.